

# Gainesville Daily Sun

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TEN CENTS A WEEK

## RUSSIA READY FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

This Information Is Obtained  
On Reliable Authority.

### JAPS PRESSING RUSSIAN ARMY

Mikado's Men Moving Forward—The Japanese Are Clearing the Battlefield of Mukden and Collecting the Stores and Munitions Russians Left.

London, March 28.—5:42 p. m.—A telegram from a north European capital received here at noon today says: "I have just learned on reliable authority that Russia has asked M. Delcasse to act as an intermediary and open peace negotiations with Japan. Delcasse has signified his willingness, but considers that Lansdowne's co-operation is essential to success."

### Japanese Moving Forward.

Gunshu Pass, Manchuria, March 29.—The Japanese are again moving forward and the Russian rear guard has fallen back from its position about 13 miles north of Sipinghai (74 miles north of Tie Pass) to Chaoumiaozi, which is situated 40 miles below Gunshu Pass.

Practically complete reports show that the Russian army sacrificed general commissariat stores to the amount of \$1,250,000 and stores for an army corps amounting to \$500,000 held at Mukden most of it being set on fire, the boots and uniforms among the stores, of which the whole army was in need, arriving from Europe four days before the Russian retirement from Mukden. General Kuropatkin ordered the removal of the stores, but his order was not executed. An investigation will be made to establish the responsibility.

### Japs Clearing Battle Field.

With the Japanese Left Army in the field, March 28, 11 a. m., via Pusan.—The Japanese army near Mukden is clearing the battlefield sorting the enormous quantities of stores and materials captured and attending to the prisoners.

Engineers and others are repairing the railroad bridge across the Hun river, which was badly damaged by the Russians. Trains are now running to the Hun river. They will reach Mukden in a few days. The weather is very warm and the ground is thawing rapidly, making the movement of guns and transport wagons difficult.

### Russia Has Pile of Gold.

London, March 29.—The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Daily Mail reports that he accepted the invitation of Finance Minister Kokovosoff to inspect the reserves of gold in the State bank, and describes his visit to that institution. He says: "The actual view of \$325,000,000 of gold was found supremely uninteresting, tedious and depressing. Over 12,500 sacks of gold coin stacked in rows looked no more impressive than sacks of merchandise, while 15,912 gold ingots closely packed on shelves like a library less suggested their value than the shelves of an ironmonger's store."

### Mother Murders Her Children.

Paducah, Ky., March 29.—Mrs. Mary Brockwell, whose three children, aged 3, 4 and 5 years, died from poisoning under suspicious circumstances, last Saturday, broke down and confessed she had killed them by giving them morphine and coal oil. The woman said that her husband was in an asylum and that she could not support the children. She also stated that George Albertson promised to marry her if she would get rid of the children. Albertson was arrested as an accessory.

### Train Wrecked Near Andrews, N. C.

Atlanta, March 29.—A Southern railway passenger train was derailed last night near Andrews, N. C., with the result of injuring several persons. Two, it is reported, seriously. The injured were taken by special train to Mercer, where they were cared for. The superintendent and roadmaster went from Asheville to the scene of the wreck.

### VENEZUELA CAN PAY DEBTS.

President Castro Says Attack of American Press Is Unwarranted.

New York, March 29.—President Castro has reiterated, according to a Herold dispatch from Caracas, his statements on the matter. He declares that attacks by the American press against his country and government indicate complete ignorance of the facts concerning the debts of Venezuela and the settlements thereof. The debts are relatively small, the whole amount not exceeding \$30,000,000.

All those debts have, the statement continues, been punctually paid since the protocol was signed. Nearly \$1,000,000 was peremptorily claimed by Germany, England and Italy, and paid. Since then \$2,200,000 more has also been paid, representing 30 per cent of the duties. The other (exterior) debts held in England and Germany, are, according to the provisions of the protocols, being settled between the bond holders and Venezuela.

The country has paid and will continue to pay, the president concluded, as stipulated in the protocols which Minister Bowen arranged.

### WILL CHURCH ACCPET GIFT?

Is the Question that Is Now Before the Board of Foreign Missions.

Boston, March 29.—The question of accepting or rejecting John D. Rockefeller's gift of \$100,000 to the American board of commissioners for foreign missions, was the principal business scheduled to come before the meeting of the president, and the committee of the organization today.

The widespread discussion which followed the formal action taken by congregational clergymen in various parts of New England last week in protesting against the acceptance of the gift because of objections to the alleged business methods of the Standard Oil company created interest in today's meeting.

Dr. James L. Barton, foreign secretary of the American board, said today that already \$41,500 of the gift was in the treasury, and the question to be decided at today's meeting was, therefore, that this amount should be returned or that it should be retained and the balance accepted.

### CRY OF FIRE CAUSES PANIC.

Blaze in Shirt Factory Causes Consternation Among Girl Employees.

New York, March 29.—A trifling blaze caused by the ignition of a newspaper from a spark from an electrical apparatus in the shirtwaist factory of Max Roth, which occupies the five upper floors of a 6-story building in Walker street today, started a panic among the 300 girls employed there.

There is but one exit, besides the fire escapes, this being a narrow stairway leading from all the floors. When the cry of fire was raised the girls crowded down the stairway, falling over and trampling upon each other, and before all were out a dozen of them had fainted from fright and slight injuries.

The panic was increased by the contact of some of the men employed, who trampled upon the women in their own haste to escape. One girl's hip was fractured.

### Prisoner Burns to Death.

Birmingham, Ala., March 29.—A special to the News from Warrior, Ala., says that Thomas Blackburn, a well-known farmer of that place, had been burned to death in a cell in the town jail by a fire of his own making in an attempt to escape from prison. The fire was discovered too late to save the man, although the cell was broken open with axes and sledge hammers and the burning man dragged out. Blackburn was a brother of City Marshal Blackburn. He had been arrested for drunkenness.

### Two Killed by Missed Shot.

Cumberland, Md., March 29.—Stephen Baldock and Reap Novonich were killed and several fellow workers were injured on the Wabash extension at Okonoko yesterday. The men were working with a blast, which had been set Friday and which failed to explode. While ramming more powder in the hole, the blast exploded with terrific force.

## COTTON REPORT OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

Thirteen and One Half Million  
Bales of Cotton Raised.

### AMOUNT RAISED IN EACH STATE

Bulletin Shows Number of Square and Round Bales, Including Linters—Condition of the Cotton Market at New Orleans.

Washington, March 29.—The census bureau today issued a bulletin showing the total crop of cotton for the season of 1904 to be 13,597,782 bales.

These figures include linters and count round bales as half bales, and the total is equivalent to 13,484,000 bales of 500 pounds. The square bales numbered 13,103,477, the round bales 269,161, the sea island bales 108,317, the linters 241,942. Total running bales including linters, 13,745,857. Included in these totals are 192,275 running bales and estimated by ginners as remaining to be ginned.

The total crop of running bales for 1903 was 10,399,558.

The distribution of the crop of 1904, according to the character of the bales and of cotton, was as follows:

Square bales (upland crop) reported from ginneries, 13,103,477.

Round bales (upland crop) reported from ginneries, 269,161.

Bales of sea island cotton reported from ginneries, 108,317.

Bales of linters reported from cotton seed oil mills, 241,942.

The figures for the different states on running bales were:

Alabama, 1,458,966; Arkansas, 883,967; Florida, 86,642; Georgia, 1,360,151; Indian Territory, 475,982; Kansas, 14; Kentucky, 1,922; Louisiana, 1,105,466; Mississippi, 1,738,639; Missouri, 98,156; North Carolina, 744,394; Oklahoma, 241,497; South Carolina, 1,189,134; Tennessee, 316,790; Texas, 3,134,677; Virginia, 17,216.

### New Orleans Market.

New Orleans, March 29.—Though the census bureau report even exceeded the limit fixed by the bears as the estimate of the cotton crop, the local market withstood the effect of the issuance of the report, and went up instead of down. At one time both May and July were 6 points up and at noon all the months were at an advance of 2 points. The market was not active, and 30 minutes after it was read the pit was deserted.

### ALLEGED TREASURER IS SHORT.

City Official of Florida Town Is Under Serious Charges.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 29.—City Treasurer Ball, of Orange Park, 14 miles from Jackson, on St. Johns river, resigned at the last meeting of the Orange Park council, and upon investigation it was found that he was short in his accounts. It is not known at this time what the amount of his alleged shortage is. He is said to have tendered a check for the balance due the city to his successor, but later confessed that he had no funds in the Jacksonville bank, on which the check was drawn.

Ball was formerly postmaster at Orange Park, and was arrested some time since for embezzlement of government funds, and is now out on bond awaiting trial at the April term of the federal court, which convenes in Jacksonville this week.

### Soldier Falls Hair to \$250,000.

Burlington, Vt., March 29.—After serving 8 years in Troop 1, Fifteenth cavalry, at Fort Ethan Allen, Leon H. DeGraft, son of the late Leon DeGraft, of the firm of DeGraft & Taylor, of New York, and grandson of H. P. DeGraft, former president of the Bowery bank, has received word that he is heir to an estate valued at about \$250,000. Influential friends have obtained his discharge from the army, and he will go to New York to engage in the real estate business. DeGraft enlisted in the army because of discontent in school. He recently lost the position of troop clerk because he was absent without leave.

### WOMAN GETS TEN YEARS.

Mrs. Chadwick Is Sentenced—Her Lawyers Make Appeal.

Cleveland, O., March 29.—Unless the higher court interferes Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick will spend the greater part of the next ten years in the Ohio penitentiary.

A sentence of ten years was imposed on her by Judge Robert W. Taylor in the United States district court yesterday. The sentence came at the close of a busy day for the court in hearing arguments on a motion for a new trial which lasted all day. The motion was overruled.

Mrs. Chadwick was convicted on seven counts and sentenced upon six counts. For four of these counts a sentence of two years each was imposed. Upon two counts a sentence of one year each was imposed, making a total sentence of ten years.

As soon as the sentence was pronounced Attorney J. P. Dawley, of counsel for Mrs. Chadwick, took exceptions to the sentence upon each count except the first count. The defense intends to make the claim that the court cannot impose a separate sentence for each count.

### BOY KILLED WHILE HUNTING.

Alabama Youth Meets Tragic Death While Out Shooting.

Columbus, Ga., March 29.—Burrell Ruggs, the 15-year-old son of J. B. Ruggs, of Girard, Ala., was accidentally in the swamps of the Uchee creek a few miles west of the city, yesterday morning.

He and George Roberts, a friend, had planned a day's hunting, and started out early in order to be on the scene by daylight.

Young Ruggs was carrying his gun and an ax, and in walking through the dense woods stumbled over a log, dropping his gun. Both barrels were discharged, the charge taking effect in his chest, killing him instantly.

His comrade, who was ahead of him carrying a lantern, heard a faint cry when Ruggs fell, but he was dead when he reached him.

### SEVERAL KILLED IN TORNADO.

Minnesota Town In Ruins and Much Property Is Destroyed.

St. Paul, Minn., March 29.—A report reached this city last night that the little town of Loupburg, in the extreme western portion of the state, had been practically wiped out by a tornado, and that seven persons had been seriously injured. It was also stated that from two to seven were killed; but up to a late hour it has been impossible, owing to lack of telegraph facilities, to verify the latter statement.

Loupburg is a town of about 100 inhabitants in Lac Qui Parle county, and has neither telephone or telegraph connection with the outside world. Reports from nearby towns, however, state that three store buildings were entirely demolished and that every residence in the town was more or less damaged.

### Big Tunnel Now In Use.

Knoxville, Tenn., March 29.—The first engine passed through the big Louisville and Nashville tunnel at Dossett station, and there is apparently no reason why trains cannot begin running on regular schedule over the Cincinnati-Atlanta line on April 1. Freight service will then be inaugurated and passenger trains will be started by April 15. The Dossett tunnel is three-quarters of a mile in length and has been a difficult one to build owing to the sandy nature of the soil and underground streams of water which were struck in its construction.

### Speaker of House Now Governor.

Nashville, Tenn., March 29.—The right of speaker of the senate John I. Cox, to exercise the functions of governor, has been questioned by the legislature and attorney general Cate was asked for an opinion on the subject. General Cate gave an opinion today in favor of Mr. Cox. The supreme court held that they were precluded by constitutional limitations from delivering an advisory opinion on the question of gubernatorial succession. Senator Cox will exercise the functions of governor for the term to which ex-Governor Frazier was elected.

## GIGANTIC SCHEME OF COUNTERFEITING

Secret Service Men Locate Big  
Gang In Denver.

### BEST IMITATIONS EVER FOUND

They Made \$10 and \$20 Bills of the Buffalo Series—Their Field of Operation Has Been the Entire United States. Description of the Counterfeit.

Denver, March 29.—The News today says that a counterfeiting scheme, gigantic in its proportions and rich in results which has its field the whole of the United States, has just been unearthed by the federal authorities.

A number of government secret service agents are now in Denver following clues which are said to have led them to believe that the headquarters of the gang are located in this city.

The operations of the counterfeiters are said to extend all the way from New York to San Francisco and it is believed something like \$50,000 has been secured in the larger cities of the country. The counterfeit is one of the best duplicates of the Buffalo series of \$10 and \$20 bills which has ever come to the attention of the federal authorities. A description of the counterfeit as furnished by the United States secret service follows:

Series, 1901, No. 23,513,972; face plate 159, back plate 87, check letter D, signed Lyons, register; Roberts, treasurer; portraits of Lewis and Clark.

The counterfeit is a shade darker than the genuine.

Secret Service Agent F. H. Wilson is here working on the case.

Speaking of the counterfeiters' method of operation, he said:

"Their work is so smooth that it is almost impossible to detect them at it. Several agents are sent out and purchases for small amounts are made in the stores of the town they are in. A \$10 bill or \$20 bill is presented in payment, and they receive their cash in change. The counterfeit is not discovered until it goes to the bank, and even then in a great many cases it has been allowed to go through as perfect is the imitation.

"There is not only one gang, but several of them scattered around over the country. How many there are in the one deal we cannot tell yet."

### WANTED—18 MEN HATERS.

To Replace 18 Teachers Who Quit to Marry. All in Two Weeks.

Manchester, N. H., March 29.—Because of the recent extraordinary activity of Cupid among the pretty school maams of this city, the school board finds itself in need of the services of 18 woman teachers, men-haters preferred. Within the last two weeks 18 teachers have notified the school committee of their intention to wed and therefore to quit the city's service. No one can remember when so severe an epidemic of marriage has attacked the teaching force of Manchester, and the school board is said to be worrying considerably over the probability of the epidemic spreading still further.

There are about 125 teachers here, most of them young women, and a rule of long standing forbids a married woman to be a teacher, unless she be without other means of support.

### Dominican Proposition Accepted.

Washington, March 29.—President Roosevelt was decided to accept the proposition of the Dominican government made through Minister Dawson for the control of the finances of that republic with a view to settling aside a portion of the revenues of the republic for the payment of its debts. The officers who will connect the money and hold it will be appointed by the Dominican government, but the names of the men selected will be referred to this government for approval.

### Gen. R. E. Lee's Daughter Dead.

New Orleans, La., March 29.—Miss Mildred Lee, youngest daughter of General Robert E. Lee, died here at the residence of Mrs. William Preston Johnston while on a visit. Her death was due to apoplexy.